

Overview of Year 10 Curriculum: GCSE SCIENCE & ADDITIONAL SCIENCE

All pupils in Year 10 will take three periods of Science a week and follow a GCSE Science course. However, pupils may wish to opt for two periods of Science, in which case they will complete the initial GCSE course in one year and have the option for further Science study in Year 11, thus completing two GCSE subjects in Year 10 and 11. Which of these two options a pupil selects will depend upon:-

Performance at Key Stage 3, Teacher recommendation, Pupil choice

The GCSE Science course is set out briefly below:-

Subject	Unit	Topic
Biology	B1a	1. Environment
		2. Genes
	B1b	3. Electrical and Chemical signals
		4. Use, Misuse and Abuse
Chemistry	C1a	5. Patterns in Properties
		6. Making Changes
	C1b	7. There's One Earth
		8. Designer Products
Physics	P1a	9. Producing and Measuring electricity
		10. You're in charge
	P1b	11. Now you see it, now you don't
		12. Space and its Mysteries

Homework

Two homeworks are set each week. The type of homework varies and may be used to reinforce the learning in lessons. This will be in the form of questions which test subject knowledge. Some homeworks are used as assessment for learning exercises and pupils will be asked to search out information from various sources. Some homework may be of a practical nature, in which case, pupils will be told to seek parental permission.

Assessment

Internal Assessment	40%
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Assessment of practical skills (10%), where the teacher is assessing the student's ability to follow instructions, collect data and present their raw results. This will take place in the course of normal lessons.Assessment activities (30%), provided by the examination board will also take place in normal lessons. This work will be marked by the teacher and externally moderated by an examiner appointed by the examination board.	
External Assessment	60%
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Six tiered multiple-choice tests, available in November (2006), March (2007), June (2007). The tier of entry will be determined by the quality of the level obtained at KS3.<i>The exact dates of these tests will be known and published each year. Pupils can only sit the tests on the days specified by the board.</i>	

How Parents can help

- Ensure your son attends school with the correct equipment.
- Check that your son records his homework and the dates of module science tests.
- Encourage your son to watch scientific programmes on television, read about scientific events in newspapers and visit scientific sites on the internet.
- Revision guides will be made available at cost price from the Science department.